

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 04524 140804Z

15

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20 TAR-02 STR-08 RSR-01 /116 W

----- 080029

R 140620Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1504

INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 4524

FOR COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EIND, AS

SUBJ: IMPLICATION FOR U.S. EXPORT OF RECENT FOREIGN
EXCHANGE DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) CANBERRA 2932; (B) CANBERRA 4023

1. EMBASSY AND CONSULATES HAVE AGAIN SURVEYED LOCAL SCENE
FOR IMPLICATIONS RECENT EXCHANGE RATE CHANGES ON U.S.
EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA. EFFECTS STILL APPEAR TO BE MORE
INCIPIENT THAN PRESENTLY APPARENT. LITTLE DIRECT RESPONSE
ON PRICES CAN YET BE VERIFIED. IMPORTER INTEREST IN U.S.
SOURCING OF ITEMS PREVIOUSLY NOT PURCHASED THERE IS NOTABLY
HIGHER BUT THIS INTEREST NOT YET MANIFESTED IN HIGHER
IMPORTS. RECENT 25 PERCENT CUT IN AUSTRALIAN TARIFFS (REF B)
WILL FURTHER MAGNIFY IMPROVED PRICE COMPETITIVENESS OF
U.S. PRODUCTS, BUT THIRD COUNTRY ITEMS WILL LIKEWISE
BENEFIT.

2. ACCORDING TO COMMENTS REPORTED BY CONSULATES, THERE
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APPEAR TO BE TWO MAIN REASONS FOR LACK OF RESPONSE PRICES

OF U.S. GOODS OFFERED FOR SALE IN AUSTRALIA:

A. INFLATION OF UNEVEN INCIDENCE IN U.S., AS RESULT OF
WHICH SOME U.S. GOODS ACTUALLY MORE EXPENSIVE IN TERMS
AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS THAN BEFORE INITIAL PARITY CHANGE.

B. ABSORPTION OTHER RISING LOCAL COSTS, PARTICULARLY WAGES,
BY AUSTRALIAN RETAILERS.

3. EMBASSY AND CONSULATES WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR
SITUATION AND REPORT SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.
GREEN

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Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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